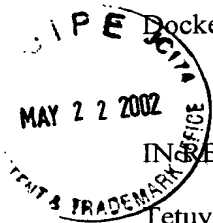


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Docket No.: 217969US0X CIP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Tetuya OOKURA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/040,416

FILED: JANUARY 9, 2002

FOR: ERYTHROSE REDUCTASE, ITS cDNA AND CELL WHICH THE cDNA EXPRESS

LETTER TO PTO

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Further to the Preliminary Amendment, filed April 15, 2002, in response to the February 14, 2002, Office Communication, Applicants wish to correct the statement of pending claims. In the REMARKS section of the Preliminary Amendment, filed April 15, 2002, it was improperly stated that Claims 1-10 are pending. In fact, Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully request correction of this error, without prejudice.

Applicants submit that the present application is ready for examination on the merits. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

[Handwritten signature of Norman F. Oblon]

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